Conservation of Heritage sites in Delhi

†1203. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the heritage sites across the country, including seven forts and fifty two gates in Delhi, only thirteen sites dating back to the eleventh and twelfth centuries stand in ruined condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to look after their upkeep by way of extending cooperation and financial assistance to the States and if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) There are 3660 monuments/sites protected and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). These include two forts namely Lal Kot and Qila Rai Pithora and six gates in Delhi datable to 11th-12th century AD which are conserved and preserved as per archaeological norms. None of them are in ruined condition.

Details of the gates in Delhi are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(c) The upkeep of the centrally protected monuments is taken care by the Archaeological Survey of India. Monuments which require immediate attention in terms of conservation are identified during the visits and inspections and requisite Conservation measures are taken up depending on the availability of funds.

The ASI also extends technical assistance to the conservation of State protected monuments.

Twelfth Finance Commission of Central Government has recommended allocation of Rs. 625 crores among various States for heritage conservation for the period between 2005-06 and 2009-2010.

Statement

Details of Gates protected by Archaeological Survey of India in Delhi:

1. Ramp and gateway of Rai Pithora's Fort, Aliganj
2. Walls of lal Kot and Qila Rai Pithora's Fort from Sohan Gate to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Adham Khan's Tomb including the ditch where there is an outer wall, Mehrauli

3. Wall of Qila Rai Pithora's Fort including gateways and bastions, Qutb-Tughlaqabad Road.
4. Badayun Gate, Kh. No. 412,22/27 & 23, Hauz Rani, Lado Sarai.
5. Gateway of Lal Kot 4000 feet to the west of Delhi-Qutb road, Kh. no. 143, Lado Sarai.
6. Gateway of Qila Rai Pithora's Fort, Kh. No. 481, 514 Lado Sarai.

Establishment of Cultural Centres

†1204. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to establish Indian cultural centres in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ICCR has already established 17 Cultural Centres and 2 Sub Centres abroad. The ICCR is in the process of establishing new Cultural Centres in Tokeyo, Washington, Kathmandu and Kabul.

(c) Not applicable.

Preservation of Photographs

1205. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that condition of the photographs in various collections is not good;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to train the people to keep this precious legacy of the past;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this direction;

(d) the number of the photographs which are not in good condition;

(e) whether it is also a fact that there are very few trained people in this field;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.